

**WELCOME GUESTS
AND MEMBERS!**

We are so glad you chose to worship Jesus Christ with us today! We would love to know that you were with us. Please fill out this slip, detach it, and drop it in the offering plate.

GUESTS

Name(s) _____

Name(s) _____

Street Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Phone _____

Email _____

- I would like to become a member
- I would like to become involved in a ministry or mission
- I would like the pastor to call me

MEMBERS

List each person present and update any info

Name(s) _____

Name(s) _____

Street Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Phone _____

Email _____

PRAYER CONCERNS

In your daily prayers, please pray for:

NEW: Family of Vickie Nantz

CONTINUING: Thomas Allen, Beverly Beal, Arlen & Sue Belk, Les Canupe, Greg Clarke, Rob Coles (son of Lynn Campbell), Elvie Cranford, Catherine Douglas, Kathy Douglas, Sandy Eldridge, Jane Finger, Pam Freeman, Donald Hartsell (brother-in-law of Kathy Dellinger), Ed Hatley, Betty Jo Helms, Jayce Heff, Susan Henthorn, Denise Hobbs, Dolly Jones, Jack Jones, Danny Kirkpatrick, Randi Kolseth, Pat Lawing, Jim Love, Judy Lowe, Danny Nicholson, Patsy Nicholson, Hal & Joann Parker, Lessie Pendleton, Scott Sain, Gracie Sceascea, Randolph & Teresa Shives, Linda Smith, First UMC, Peace in Europe, Prayers for the homeless

NURSING FACILITIES: Ann Ford (The Addison), Mary Heavner (Abernethy Laurels), Judy Komas (The Addison), Brenda Noles (Heath House), Mary Jean Rollins (Summit Place - Mooresville)

HOMEBOUND: Brenda Ballard, Lou Beal, Winnon Cashion, Jo Huss, Donna Connor Morris, Bobbie Robinson, Mary Robinson, Verna Rufini

THOSE SERVING YOU TODAY

MINISTERS:	All Members of First UMC
LITURGIST:	Carol King
GREETERS:	Tim & Rosemary Leonard
ACOLYTE:	
HEAD USHER:	Carl Henline
MEDIA TECHS:	Tim Leonard, Ron Metzger & Thurman Melton
PEW KEEPERS:	Jeremy & Emily Krech
ROVER:	Ron Metzger
VALET:	Steve Morton

STAFF OF FIRST UMC

PASTOR	Dr. Tim Roberts	336-293-3698	troberts@wncumc.net
PASTOR EMERITUS	Rev. Phillip Cole		
DIR. OF MINISTRIES	Robbie Combs		firstumcministries@gmail.com
DIR. OF MUSIC	Joanna Underwood		junmor61@gmail.com
ORGANIST/PIANIST	Neil Underwood		nunderwoodband@gmail.com
FINANCIAL ASSIST.	Letha Owen		lrowen520@gmail.com
FACILITIES MGR.	Steve Herman		paherman@charter.net
PRESCHOOL DIR.	Kristen Willis		preschool@fumclincolnton.com

CCLI #20422793 (Music), #20422803 (Streaming), CVLI #504379166 (Video)



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

201 East Main Street, Lincolnton, North Carolina 28092
704-735-7489 fumclincolnton.com



**First United Methodist Church
Lincolnton**

Love God. Love All. Be Like Jesus.



Advent is that time of year when we really get into the full swing of Christmas - shopping, parties, giving gifts, getting gifts, holiday foods, Santa Claus, family, friends, Christmas carols, ...
It is such a fun time of the year!
How could it get any better?

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Enter to Worship

Kneel to Pray

Rise to Serve

December 24, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Advent

11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE

CHIMING OF THE HOLY TRINITY

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

Chancel Choir

Light the Advent Candle

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: The impossible is about to happen in a stable.
The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

**People: Those who lived in a land of deep darkness,
on them has the light shined!**

Leader: This is the evening when creation stood still and held its
breath, for God was doing the most unbelievable, dangerous thing.

**People: This is the evening when God embraced humanity
from the inside, as one of us, from birth to death.**

Leader: In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God.

**People: And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of
grace and truth.**

***HYMN**

Angels, We Have Heard on High

UMH #238

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and
earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was
conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from
thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe
in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of
saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and
the life everlasting. Amen.**

***GLORIA PATRI**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost! As
it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without
end. Amen. Amen.**

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

The Tweed Family

*O Come, thou Root of Jesse's tree, an ensign of thy people be;
Before thee rulers silent fall, all peoples on thy mercy call.
Rejoice, Rejoice, Emmanuel Shall Come To Thee, O Israel*

TIME MOSTLY FOR CHILDREN

Robbie Combs

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 12:2; John 1: 1-15

ANTHEM

Rise Up Shepherd, Go Tell It!

Chancel Choir

SERMON

Give More

Dr. Tim Roberts

3rs in Series: The Advent Conspiracy

***HYMN**

There's A Song In The Air

UMH #249

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION**

Chancel Choir

***POSTLUDE**

****You are invited to stand, as you are able****

WELCOME: To all who need a church home, who mourn and need comfort, who
are lonely and need friendship, who know how to pray and who do not, who sin
and need a Saviour, who are displaced and are searching for community, who are
tossed in turbulent waters and are seeking a safe harbor, and to whosoever will –
First United Methodist Church opens wide its heart, mind, and doors, and in the
name of Jesus the Christ says: WELCOME!.

PRAYER CONNECTIONS

*Jesus said, "Therefore I say to you,
whatever you pray and ask for, believe that
you will receive it, and it will be so for you."
- Mark 11:24 (CEB)*

We believe in the power of prayer. If you
have a prayer concern that you would like for
the church and/or the pastor to pray with you
about, please let us know by writing it down
on the slip below and dropping it in the
offering plate.

**Check here to have your prayer
request to be shared with the church.
Otherwise, it will remain confidential.**

Use the space below to list any requests for
more information about events or to provide
additional information about yourself. Please
place this slip in the offering plate.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TITHES AND OFFERINGS: The offering plates are located at each entrance for you to give of your weekly tithe and offerings. You may also choose to use our online giving portal at: www.fumclincolnton.com/give-online

GRIEFSHARE: Our GriefShare group meets each Monday, at 10:00 am in the Annex. The last meeting for this current session of Griefshare will be on December 28th at 10:00 am.

CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION: All are invited to join us this evening at 5:00 pm for our annual Christmas Eve Communion and Candlelight Service. Bring your families and invite friends to be a part of this most meaningful service, where we celebrate the birth of the Christ Child.

MEDICAL DEBT RIP: As Pastor Tim has mentioned the past couple of weeks, our church has an opportunity to greatly help those in our area who are overcome with medical debts. More information will be coming regarding this program, but you may check the following website to answer some questions you may have:

<https://tinyurl.com/First-RIPMedical>

OFFERING ENVELOPES: Offering envelopes for the coming year at now available for pick up on the counter in the Middle Building. You can pick up packs of 12, packs of 52, or single envelopes. If you have any questions, please see Letha.

OFFICE CLOSED: The Church Office will be closed on Monday, December 25, 2023 and Monday, January 1, 2024.

***MERRY CHRISTMAS to you all from
The Pastor and Staff of
First United Methodist Church***

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES UPDATE:

Emergency Services is requesting:

- Shampoo and Conditioner
- Body Wash and Body Lotion
- Backpacks for the homeless
- Jeans waist size 30 and 32

Current Food Needs:

Peanut Butter, Crackers, Breakfast food (cereal, grits, oatmeal), Macaroni & Cheese, Pop-top cans of food (easy to use for our homeless)

Clothes Closet:

The clothes closet will reopen on January 2.

December is our month to collect specific food items for Christian Ministries. First UMC has been asked to concentrate on bringing in crackers, laundry detergent (dollar store types), and all types of soups. A grocery cart is in the entry of education building and a collection box is in the middle building.

In January, we are asked to provide volunteers to pack food boxes at Christian Ministries. The designated dates for our church is January 22, 23 and 24th.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – December 31

Liturgist: Jennifer Ellis

Greeters: Bill & Karen Leonhardt

Acolyte: Lucas Demofonte

Time Mostly for Children: Dr. Tim Roberts

Pew Keepers: Steve & Jane Morton

Valet: Bo King

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